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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.
September 21, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CANDICE S. MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God of our ancestors in faith, and animator of faith in the American people today, we come before You with humility and gratitude. As Christians and people of other faiths, we join our Jewish brothers and sisters as they approach Rosh Hashanah. Together we offer prayers of forgiveness, both as individuals and as a Nation.

If we cannot admit our mistakes before you, O Lord, and firmly desire to turn a new page, how can we become the people You require us to be, and where will people of virtue and true leadership be found in a world searching for stability and hope?

As the festival of Rosh Hashanah celebrates all the freshness of a new year and the abundance of a rich harvest, we ask You, Almighty Lord, to bless this Nation in its fullness and in all its institutions of lawful government.

Let our people taste the sweet honey of Your presence and serve You and one another with a refreshed perspective and renewed heart, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KUCINICH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain five 1-minute speeches per side.

LONE STAR VOICE: JASON PITTS, SABINE PASS, TEXAS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, last year the tiny coastal community of Sabine Pass, Texas, was literally drowned by Hurricane Rita. A year later it is still in shambles. Now the people who live in Sabine Pass say that they survived Rita, but they may not survive the illegals hired to repair the area.

Jason Pitts writes about these fears. In the morning hundreds of vehicles loaded with illegals make their way into my town of Sabine Pass. The traffic problems caused by the illegals are terrible. These drivers have no regard for traffic laws. They pass on the top of bridges, and they speed like they are in a NASCAR race.

To add to the insult, free washers and dryers were brought in for Sabine Pass citizens who lost everything. Soon, illegals were dropping off their clothes and their wives so they could get clothes cleaned for free.

My family and neighbors lost everything they own. There is no way to purchase food or fuel in my hometown. Immigration officials will not send anyone to Sabine Pass to perform immigration checks, because they have been mandated not to do so. This is not acceptable.

Madam Speaker, Jason Pitts is right. Seal our borders, crack down on employers hiring illegals, or risk losing the quality of life of our own citizens.

And that's just the way it is.

SIGNS OF WAR PREPARATION

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, all the signs of preparation for war against Iran are there for anyone who can see. Covert action, the Strategic Air Command, the selection of 1,500 targets, and a plan for a naval blockade, a faked or hyped intelligence report on the degree of uranium enrichment and the manipulation of the media.

It is Iraq all over again, but instead of a Nation of 25 million, Iran is a Nation of 70 million sitting right next to Iraq, where 130,000 U.S. troops are in danger simply because of the war planning.

Today, while our government borrows money from China, Japan and Korea to pay for a war in Iraq that could cost up to \$3 trillion, the administration is preparing to spend more money for a war against Iran. This Congress must not permit this administration to open up another war without permission, without oversight, without justification, without the financial resources, without the human

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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resources, without a shred of common sense or realism.

Bombs are no substitute for diplomacy. You can bomb the world to pieces, but you can't bomb the world to peace.

COMMENDING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORWOOD, NORTH CAROLINA IN STANLY COUNTY

(Mr. HAYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize the town of Norwood, North Carolina, for its 125th anniversary. Norwood has a rich and vibrant history as the area's earliest settlers arrived in the 1750s, and the town officially was incorporated in 1881.

In the beginning, Norwood was a town thriving on agriculture and newly established railroad lines. Local entrepreneur Troy J.W. McKenzie relocated his business to Norwood and commented that the town will very soon, unless indications are false, become an important trade center.

McKenzie was correct. In the 21st century, Norwood is the home of many local and international manufacturing companies, and this business-friendly environment has the potential for continued economic growth. Today I say congratulations to the town of Norwood for 125 years, many exciting years to come.

FEDERAL CONTRACTS AND SUDAN

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, more than \$600 million of Federal contracts has gone to companies whose business in Sudan may directly or indirectly support the Sudanese Government's campaign of genocide in Darfur. No one should have to worry that their tax dollars are supporting genocide, and that is why I am introducing the Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of 2006.

This bill is designed to wash the blood off of our Federal contracts and increase the financial pressure on Khartoum to end the genocide in Darfur. It also protects the rights of States to divest their own public pension funds from companies doing business in Sudan, because some in the other body insist on stripping that language out of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

Divestment played a critical role in ending apartheid in South Africa, and it is unconscionable that anyone in Congress would try to prevent people from washing the blood from their pensions and doing their part to end this genocide. We have a moral responsibility to use every tool at our disposal to end this genocide.

I call on my colleagues to cosponsor my bill and support the growing national divestment movement.

PROTECT OUR BORDERS

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, it has been more than 5 years since the terrorist attacks on September 11. In looking back, we have made great progress in uprooting the terrorists from their havens and liberating millions of people. We also have provided our law enforcement and intelligence agencies with new tools to combat these threats. Yet there is so much more to do. We are at war with terrorists, and we must protect our borders.

If we cannot control our borders, how can we prevent those who would murder us from entering our Nation? Millions attempt to enter our Nation illegally every year. Many are apprehended.

I commend our Border Patrol for their fine work under difficult situations; however, millions have crossed the border successfully in the past 5 years, and we do not know how many terrorists there are. Our borders are another battleground in the war on terror.

HOLD ON FDA COMMISSIONER OVER RU-486

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to comment on Senator Jim DEMINT's decision to put a hold on Andrew van Eschenbach's nomination to head the FDA. This has to do with a drug, an abortifacient called RU-486. This drug has been linked to eight deaths, nine life-threatening incidents and more than 200 hospitalizations.

The FDA is charged with safeguarding public health, so it only makes sense that the FDA Commissioner would support suspension of the drug, RU-486, until a full investigation can be completed on its effect on women's health. Nine other drugs have been suspended in the past 8 years that didn't cause a single death, yet this known health threat remains on the market as we speak. Madam Speaker, this is nothing less than irresponsible, and it is time the FDA exerted some leadership on the issue.

Senator DEMINT has acted in the interest of women's health and common sense. I thank him for his leadership.

CONGRESS IS ACTING ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, faced with two conflicting bills regarding illegal aliens, the House-passed border security bill

and the Reid-Kennedy amnesty plan, House Republicans left Washington in August tasked with answering one question: How did the American people want us to handle this issue? After holding multiple field hearings and town hall meetings across America, we are back in Washington, and the American people expect us to act, and that is just what we are doing.

We began by passing the Secure Fence Act last week, and today we will consider three more bills vital to securing our borders and restricting the flow of illegal aliens into our country. It is time to curtail the invasion of illegal aliens, and we must begin at our borders. House Republicans are keeping up our end of the bargain. Now it is time for the Senate to follow suit.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO HOUSE COMMISSION ON CONGRESSIONAL MAILING STANDARDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 501(b), and the order of the House of December 18, 2005, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards:

Mr. EHLERS, Michigan, Chairman.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4830, BORDER TUNNEL PREVENTION ACT OF 2006; FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6094, COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2006; AND FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6095, IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2006

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1018 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1018

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4830) to amend chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the unauthorized construction, financing, or reckless permitting (on one's land) the construction or use of a tunnel or subterranean passageway between the United States and another country. The bill shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 6094) to restore the Secretary of Homeland Security's authority to detain dangerous aliens, to ensure the removal of deportable criminal aliens, and combat alien gang crime. The bill shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage